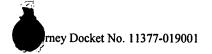
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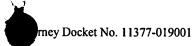




## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. An aqueous composition for oral use comprising:
  - a) an anti-odor and anti-plaque active component selected from the group consisting of an extract of *Glycyrchiza glabra*, an extract of *Usnea spp.*, an anti-odor and anti-plaque component of said extracts, and mixtures thereof;
  - b) a surfactant selected from the group consisting of cationic surfactants and nonionic surfactants and mixtures thereof.
- 2. An aqueous composition according to claim 1 having a pH less than about 5.
- 3. A composition according to claim wherein said anti-odor and anti-plaque active component of an extract of *Glycyrrhiza glabra* is selected from a group consisting of glabrins, licochaleones, glycyrrhizic acid, glycyrrhetinic acid and other flavonoids and coumarins.
- 4. A composition according to claim 1 wherein said anti-odor and anti-plaque active component of an extract of *Glycyrhiza glabra* is selected from the group consisting of water-insoluble extracts of *Glycyrhiza glabra*.
- 5. A composition according to claim 1 wherein said anti-odor and anti-plaque active component of the extract of *Usnea florida* comprises usnic acid.
- 6. A composition according to claim 1 wherein said cationic surfactant comprises a pyridinium compound.
- 7. A composition according to claim 6 wherein said pyridinium compound comprises cetyl pyridinium chloride.
- 8. A composition according to claim 1 where a said non-ionic surfactant comprises a poloxamer.
- 9. A composition according to claim 1 further comprising an oligosaccharide.





- A composition according to claim 1 or 9 further comprising a divalent metal cation. 10.
- A composition according to/claim 10 wherein said divalent metal cation is selected 11. from the group consisting of copper, zinc, selenium, calcium and magnesium.
- 12. A composition according to claim 9 wherein said oligosaccharide is selected of the group consisting of fructo oligosaccharides, soy oligosaccharides and inulin.
- A nonaqueous composition for oral use comprising: 13.
  - an anti-order anti-plaque active component selected from the group consisting of an extract of Glycyrrhiza glabra, an extract of Usnea spp., an anti-odor and antiplaque component of said extract, and mixtures thereof;
  - a non-aqueous solubilizing agent. b)
- 14. A composition according to claim 13 further comprising a cationic surfactant.
- A composition according to claim 13, further comprising a nonionic surfactant. 15.
- A composition according to claim 14 or 15 further comprising an oligosaccharide. 16.
- 17. A composition according to claim 14 or 15 further comprising a divalent metal cation.
- A composition according to claim \6 further comprising a divalent metal cation. 18.
- 19. A composition according to claim 13\14 or 15 further comprising a waxy carrier.
- 20. A composition according to claim 16 further comprising a waxy carrier.
- 21. A composition according to claim 17 further comprising a waxy carrier.
- 22. A composition according to claim 18 further comprising a waxy carrier.



- A composition according to claim 13 in the form of a gel. 23.
- 24. A composition according to claim 13 in the form of a butter.
- 25. A composition according to claim 13 in liquid form.
- 26. A buccoadhesive composition for oral use comprising:
  - an anti-odor and anti-plaque active component selected from the group a) consisting of an extract of Glycyrrhiza glabra, an extract of Usnea spp., an anti-odor and anti-plaque component of said extracts, and mixtures thereof;
  - a bioadhesive gum, polymer, or polysaccharide. b)
- 27. A composition according to claim 26 further comprising a cationic surfactant.
- A composition according to claim 26 further comprising an oligosaccharide. 28.
- A composition according to claim 26 further comprising a divalent metal cation. 29.
- A composition according to claim 28 further comprising a divalent metal cation. 30.
- 31. A chewable composition for oral use, comprising:
  - an anti-odor and anti-plaque active\component selected from the group a) consisting of an extract of Glycyrrhiza glabka, an extract of Usnea spp., an anti-odor and anti-plaque component of said extracts, and mixtures thereof;
  - a chewable polymer, rawhide, casein, protein or carbohydrate matrix. b)
- A composition according to claim 31 further comprising a cationic surfactant. 32.
- A composition according to claim 31 further comprising an oligosaccharide. 33.
- A composition according to claim 31/further comprising a divalent metal cation. 34.

- 35. A composition according to claim 33 further comprising a divalent metal cation.
- A method for reducing plaque formation on tooth enamel, dentine, and soft tissue in the oral cavity comprising the step of contacting said enamel, dentine and tissue with an anti-plaque reducing effective amount of a composition according to claim 1, 13, 26 or 31.



